Your Journey Begins with a U.S. Passport

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

travel.state.gov

TRAVELER'S CHECKLIST

Before traveling abroad, make sure to:

- **Get informed** about where you are going. Go to **travel.state.gov/destination** for information about every country in the world.
- **Get required documents.** In addition to your passport, you may need a foreign visa. Keep your passport safe while abroad and be sure to carry photocopies of the bio page and your visa at all times.
- **Get enrolled** in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at step.state.gov so the U.S. embassy or consulate can contact you in an emergency.
- **Get insured** for medical, evacuation, and other unexpected expenses.

If You Have an Existing Visa

Once you receive your new passport, your old passport cannot be used for travel. If you have a visa in your old passport that you need for travel, check with the embassy or consulate that issued the visa for guidance.

LOST OR DAMAGED PASSPORTS

Keep your passport in a safe location. If your passport is lost or stolen report it right away to protect your identity. While abroad, contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. In the United States, go to **travel.state.gov/loststolen** or call **1-877-487-2778.**

If your passport has been significantly damaged, you will need to apply for a new passport. See **travel.state.gov** for more information.

Six Month Rule

Some countries will not let you enter if your passport will expire within six months of your travel. Be sure that others traveling with you check their expiration dates. Our website, travel.state.gov, describes each country's requirements.

EXPIRATION DATE

Passport books issued to adults are valid for 10 years.
Passports for children under 16 are valid for 5 years.

INTERNATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD ABDUCTION

It is a crime for a parent to take a child outside of the United States without the other parent's consent. If you fear your child has been abducted, call us at 1-888-407-4747, or at 202-501-4444 if you are abroad.

You can help prevent abduction by enrolling your child in the Children's Passport Issuance Alert Program. We will notify you if someone submits a passport application for your enrolled child and ask you to approve the passport issuance.

Visit travel.state.gov for more information.

travel.state.gov

SIGN YOUR PASSPORT

Sign your full name in blue or black ink inside your passport. For children under 16, parents should print the child's full name on the signature line, sign the parent's name next to it, and state the relationship with the child, such as mother, father, or guardian.

Where are my documents?
We will return the original documents you submitted with your application in a separate mailing. If you applied for a passport card, it, too, will arrive separately.

Contact Us

INSIDE THE U.S.

General Passport Information
travel.state.gov
1-877-487-2778
1-888-874-7793 (TDD/TTY)

Emergency travel assistance for yourself or someone abroad
1-888-407-4747

OUTSIDE THE U.S.

Nearest Embassy/Consulate (usembassy.gov)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Bureau of Consular Affairs
Passport Services

WHERE ARE MY DOCUMENTS?

Your passport application has been approved & your passport has been issued.
(*Please check to see that the personal information on your book or card is complete and correct.*)

If you applied for a...

- Passport Book & Passport Card, you may receive three separate mailings; one with your returned citizenship evidence, one with your newly issued passport book, and one with your newly issued passport card. The U.S. passport card is not valid for international air travel.
- Passport Book Only, you may receive your newly issued book and your returned citizenship evidence in two separate mailings.
- Passport Card Only, you will receive your newly issued passport card and your returned citizenship evidence in two separate mailings. The U.S. passport card is not valid for international air travel.

If your new passport book is limited in validity, you will receive information with your returned citizenship evidence that explains the limitation and provides instructions for obtaining a fully-valid passport.

If you have any questions or for more information, please visit our website at *travel.state.gov*, connect with TravelGov on social media, or call the National Passport Information Center, toll-free, at: 1-877-487-2778 (TTY/TDD: 1-888-874-7793).

Visit us at *travel.state.gov.*

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CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDS AMERICANS GET *FULLY VACCINATED* AGAINST COVID-19 BEFORE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has new COVID-19 testing requirements for all air passengers **flying to the United States**, including people traveling with U.S. passports.

- **All air passengers aged two years or older,** regardless of vaccination status or citizenship, are required to show a negative COVID-19 viral test result from a sample taken no more than **1 day** before their flight's departure to the United States. **You must show your negative result to the airline before you board your flight.**
- **If you recently recovered from COVID-19,** you may instead travel with documentation of recovery from COVID-19. This includes your positive COVID-19 viral test result on a sample taken no more than **90 days** before the flight's departure from a foreign country **and** a letter from a licensed healthcare provider or a public health official stating that you were cleared to travel.

Plan ahead. Before traveling, check testing availability for your destination and make a plan in case you test positive, must isolate, and must delay your return travel. Consider purchasing travel insurance that includes pandemic coverage.

For more information about this and other travel requirements and recommendations before, during, and after travel:
cdc.gov/travelrequirements

Learn about testing overseas:
travel.state.gov/C19testingOverseas

Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at ***step.state.gov*** to receive alerts from the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

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